

Mixed Grass Prairie (Reseeded/Restored)

COMMON NAME	Mixed Grass Prairie (Reseeded/Restored)
SYNONYM	None
TNC SYSTEM	Terrestrial
PHYSIOGNOMIC CLASS	Herbaceous
PHYSIOGNOMIC SUBCLASS	Perennial graminoid vegetation
PHYSIOGNOMIC GROUP	Temperate or subpolar grassland
FORMATION	Medium tall sod temperate or subpolar grassland
ALLIANCE	Undefined

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENCE LEVEL 3

RANGE

This type occurs in areas designated by the Monument staff as Areas 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 13, and 15.

ENVIRONMENTAL DESCRIPTION

This community occupies areas that have been disturbed by anthropogenic activities (e.g. farming) and later reseeded with mid-grasses. This community occurs on level to gently sloping topography. The soils are sandy or silty.

USFWS WETLAND SYSTEM Not applicable

MOST ABUNDANT SPECIES

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<u>Strata</u>	<u>Species</u>
Shrub	<i>Ericameria nauseosa</i> ssp. <i>nauseosa</i> var. <i>nauseosa</i> , <i>Krascheninnikovia lanata</i>
Herbaceous	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i> , <i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i> , <i>Pascopyrum smithii</i>

DIAGNOSTIC SPECIES

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Schizachyrium scoparium, *Bouteloua curtipendula*, *Pascopyrum smithii*, *Agropyron cristatum*, *Echinacea angustifolia*, *Rudbeckia hirta*, *Salvia azurea*

VEGETATION DESCRIPTION

The community is dominated by one or a combination of the following species: *Bouteloua curtipendula*, *Schizachyrium scoparium*, and *Pascopyrum smithii*. Often few other species besides the dominants are present in the community, creating an unnatural-looking grassland. Lack of plant species diversity is a characteristic of this community. The exotic perennial grasses *Bromus inermis* and *Agropyron cristatum* may have extensive coverage in this community. These species are likely seed mixture contaminants. forbs native to the plains, but not to the Monument (e.g. *Echinacea angustifolia*, *Rudbeckia hirta*, and *Salvia azurea*) are

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also present in this community. They too are probably seed mixture contaminants. A shrub layer of *Ericameria nauseosa* ssp. *nauseosa* var. *nauseosa* and *Krascheninnikovia lanata* is sometime present in this community.

OTHER NOTEWORTHY SPECIES Information not available.

CONSERVATION RANK Information not available.

RANK JUSTIFICATION Information not available.

COMMENTS

A prairie dog town is located in one of the disturbed areas (area 13).

REFERENCES None